AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the specification:

Listing of Claims

1. (original) A method of screening for and /or diagnosis of a cardiovascular disorder in a subject, comprising the steps of:

a) detecting and /or quantifying the level of a polypeptide in a biological sample from said subject, wherein the polypeptide is selected from:

i) a polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 1-7;

ii) a variant, with at least 75% sequence identity, having one or more amino acid substitutions, deletions or insertions relative to an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 1-7; and

iii) a fragment of a polypeptide as defined in i) or ii) above which is a least seven amino acids long; and

b) comparing said level to that of a control sample,

wherein a decrease in said level relative to that of the control is indicative of a cardiovascular disorder.

2. (original) A method of predicting a cardiovascular disorder in a subject, comprising the steps of:

a) detecting and /or quantifying the level of a polypeptide in a biological sample from said subject, wherein the polypeptide is selected from:

i) a polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ I1) NOs: 1-7;

ii) a variant, with at least 75% sequence identity, having one or more amino acid substitutions, deletions or insertions relative to an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 1-7; and

iii) a fragment of a polypeptide as defined in i) or ii) above which is a least seven amino acids long; and

b) comparing said level to that of a control sample,

wherein a decrease in said level relative to that of the control indicates a risk of developing a cardiovascular disorder.

3. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein said cardiovascular disorder is Coronary Artery Disease (CAD).

4. (currently amended) The method of ~~any one of~~ claim~~s~~ 1 ~~to 3~~, wherein said biological sample is plasma.

5. (currently amended) The method of ~~any one of~~ claim~~s~~ 1 ~~to 4~~, wherein said polypeptide is detected and /or quantified by mass spectrometry.

6. (currently amended) The method of ~~any one of~~ claim~~s~~ 1 ~~to 4~~, wherein said polypeptide is detected and /or quantified by Enzyme-Linked Immuno Sorbent Assay.

7. (currently amended) The method of ~~any one of~~ claim~~s~~ 1 ~~to 6~~, wherein said detecting and /or quantifying the level of a polypeptide in a biological sample is performed ex viva.

8. (original) An isolated polypeptide of amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:
   i) SEQ ID NOs:3-7; and
   ii) a variant of (i), with at least 75% sequence identity, having one or more amino acid substitutions, deletions or insertions relative to the amino acid sequence of (i).

9. (original) An isolated polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 1-7, wherein said polypeptide is fused to a heterologous polypeptide sequence.

10. (original) An anti-Cardiovascular disorder Plasma Polypeptide (CPP) antibody that selectively binds to a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 1-7.

11. (original) A method of binding an antibody to a Cardiovascular disorder Plasma Polypeptide (CPP) comprising the steps of:
   i) contacting the antibody of claim 10 with a biological sample under conditions that permit antibody binding; and
   ii) removing contaminants.

12. (original) The method of claim 11, wherein said antibody is attached to a label group.

13. (original) The method of claim 11, wherein said sample is human plasma.

14. (original) The use of at least one polypeptide selected from:

i) a polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 1-7;

ii) a variant, with at least 75% sequence identity, having one or more amino acid substitutions, deletions or insertions relative to an amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NOs:1-7; and

iii) a fragment of a polypeptide as defined in i) or ii) above which is a least seven amino acids long;

in the preparation of a medicament for the prophylaxis and/or treatment of cardiovascular disorders or in the preparation of a drug-eluting stent.

15. (original) The use of an antibody from claim 10 in the preparation of a medicament for the prophylaxis and/or treatment of cardiovascular disorders or in the preparation of a drug-eluting stent.

16. (original) A method of identifying a Cardiovascular disorder Plasma Polypeptide (CPP) modulator comprising the steps of:

i) contacting a test compound with a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 1-7 under sample conditions permissive for at least one CPP biological activity;

ii) determining the level of said at least one CPP biological activity;

iii) comparing said level to that of a control sample lacking said test compound; and

iv) selecting a test compound which causes said level to change for further testing as a CPP modulator for the prophylactic and/or therapeutic treatment of cardiovascular disorders.

17. (original) A method of identifying a modulator of a cardiovascular disorder comprising the steps of:

(a) administering a candidate agent to a non- human test animal which is predisposed to be affected or which is affected by the cardiovascular disorder;

(b) administering the candidate agent of (a) to a matched control non-human animal not predisposed to be affected or not being affected by the cardiovascular disorder;

(c) detecting and /or quantifying the level of a polypeptide in a biological sample obtained from the non-human test animal of step (at and from the control animal of step By, wherein the polypeptide is selected from:

i) a polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 1-7;

ii) a variant, with at least 75% sequence identity, having one or more amino acid substitutions, deletions or insertions relative to an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 1-7; and

iii) a fragment of a polypeptide as defined in i) or ii) above which is a least ten amino acids long; and

(d) comparing the levels of the polypeptide of step (c); wherein a displacement of the level of the polypeptide in the biological sample obtained Tom the non-human test animal towards the level of the polypeptide in the biological sample obtained from the control animal indicates that the candidate agent is a modulator of the cardiovascular disorder.

18. (original) The method of claim 17, wherein the non-human test animal which is predisposed to be affected or which is affected by the cardiovascular disorder comprises a decreased plasma level of a polypeptide selected from:

i) a polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 1-7;

ii) a variant, with at least 75% sequence identity, having one or more amino acid substitutions, deletions or insertions relative to an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 1-7; and

iii) a fragment of a polypeptide as defined in i) or ii) above which is a least ten amino acids long.

19. (original) A method for monitoring the efficacy of a treatment of a subject having or at risk of developing a cardiovascular disorder with an agent, the method comprising:

(a) obtaining a pre-administration biological sample from the subject prior to administration of the agent;

(b) detecting and /or quantifying the level of a polypeptide in the biological sample from said subject, wherein the polypeptide is selected from:

i) polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ II3 NOs: 1-7;

ii) a variant, with at least 75% sequence identity, having one or more amino acid substitutions, deletions or insertions relative to an amino acid sequence selected -from the group consisting of SEQ ID NQs: 1-7; and

iii) a fragment of a polypeptide as defined in i) or ii) above which is a least ten amino acids long; and

(c) obtaining one or more post-administration biological samples from the subject;

(d) detecting the level of the polypeptide in the post-administration sample or samples;

(e) comparing the level of the polypeptide in the pre-administration sample with the level of the polypeptide in the post- administration sample; and

(f) adjusting the administration of the agent accordingly.